

OCONINO COUNTY ARIZONA

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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February 4, 2004

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Environmental Portfolio Standard Docket No. RE-00000C-00-0377

Dear Chairman Spitzer and Commission Members:

Members of the Corporation Commission

The Honorable Marc Spitzer and

Arizona Corporation Commission

1200 West Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

On behalf of the Coconino County Board of Supervisors, I would like to express our strong support for biomass energy plants in Arizona and for the actions required by the Commission to support their development.

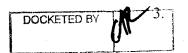
We see many advantages to these facilities. As we work to thin our forests to improve forest health and protect communities from catastrophic fire, biomass plants can provide a means to dispose of the large volume of small diameter trees that will result from thinning projects. In addition, these facilities can provide an additional source of renewable energy for this growing state.

The Board of Supervisors, therefore, urges the Arizona Corporation Commission to:

Support the effort to provide for a portion of Arizona's renewable 1. energy to come from biomass (wood and wood waste products) energy;

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4.

Extend the Arizona Environmental Portfolio Standard (EPS) beyond the current sunset date of 2012 to attract investment and insure the long range viability of biomass projects;

Consider expansion of the renewable energy requirement above the current standard; and

Develop other rules and regulations necessary to advance the framework of a biomass energy industry in the State of Arizona.

The Coconino County Board of Supervisors will consider a formal resolution on this topic at its meeting of February 17, 2004, and will submit that resolution to the Corporation Commission.

Sincerely,

Matthew G. Ryan

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

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